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From the Frank M. Gregg Collection of War Posters



Poster Design by Frank Brangwyn, R. A.  
From the Frank M. Gregg Collection of War Posters

# THE BULLETIN OF THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

FOURTH YEAR

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1917

NUMBER SEVEN

## EXHIBITION OF WAR POSTERS

In anticipation of the second Liberty Loan campaign commencing on October 1, the Museum opened in Gallery IX on September 22 an important exhibition of artistic war posters from the European countries, these being selected from the very extensive collection owned by Mr. Frank M. Gregg of Cleveland.

The exhibition is limited to the capacity of Gallery IX, the largest in the Museum, although several other galleries might easily have been used in showing posters from Mr. Gregg's collection. In fact, the whole Museum could have been used for this exhibition had it not been limited to the works of recognized artists, for Mr. Gregg's collection includes about 1800 posters and handbills, including some of the very rare German proclamations which were posted in Belgium soon after the invasion, and practically all of the early English and French announcements and calls to arms.

Among the English posters is a remarkable group of lithograph posters by Frank Brangwyn, which are of particular interest to Cleveland people because of his very important mural decoration in the County Court House. There is another impressive group by Spencer Pryse, while Bernard Partridge is represented by posters which make use of four drawings made by him for *Punch*; and there are three by L. Raven-Hill, and an illustration by Boardman Robinson.

While these English posters may not be in the strictest sense poster designs, leaning rather toward illustration, they nevertheless serve their purpose admirably in portraying, more forcibly possibly than flat poster color work could do, the enormous meaning of the present conflict—a consciousness which does not seem, as yet, to have gripped the American artists who have attempted to do posters for our own enlistment and loan campaigns.

There is a small group of six posters by Louis Raemaekers, which is to be supplemented later by some original drawings

by this prominent Hollander, who has done so much to bring the frightfulness of German warfare to the minds of the people of Europe.

Naturally, by far the largest number of posters is from French artists, and more than half of the wall space is devoted to their work, a surprising number of names being represented. There are two large posters by Roll; while impressive groups are those by Steinlen, including seven posters; by Poulbot and Jonas, including six each; four by Haulor, and numerous other smaller groups which are strong and convincing in quality and show how the war has gripped the imaginations of the artists of France. The three posters by Charles Fouquieray include the impressive figure of Cardinal Mercier of Belgium. Smaller groups are formed by Italian and Polish artists, and those of other nationalities. On the whole the collection is one which deserves careful study, and should make easier the raising of Cleveland's share of the new Liberty Loan.

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### WHISTLER ETCHINGS

Visitors to the Museum during the summer have enjoyed an unusual treat in studying the important collection of etchings by Whistler, kindly lent for an extended period by Mr. Ralph King, who thus again shows his interest in the Museum while he proves his taste as a collector.

It is indeed remarkable that one Cleveland should have in his possession so varied and choice a collection of the work of one of the unique geniuses of the nineteenth century, and it has been pleasant to notice how many have enjoyed and studied the collection, assisted by the admirable catalogue which was also provided through Mr. King's further generosity.

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### FUTURE EXHIBITIONS

The Whistler etchings will remain in Gallery X until the last week of October, when they will be replaced by an important series of original drawings of cartoons and posters bearing on the war, by Louis Raemaekers.

Early in November will be shown in the Print Room, Gallery XI, the new series of lithographs on war subjects by Joseph Pennell, depicting Picturesque American War Works.